

CARBON COPIES



MICHAEL WANG

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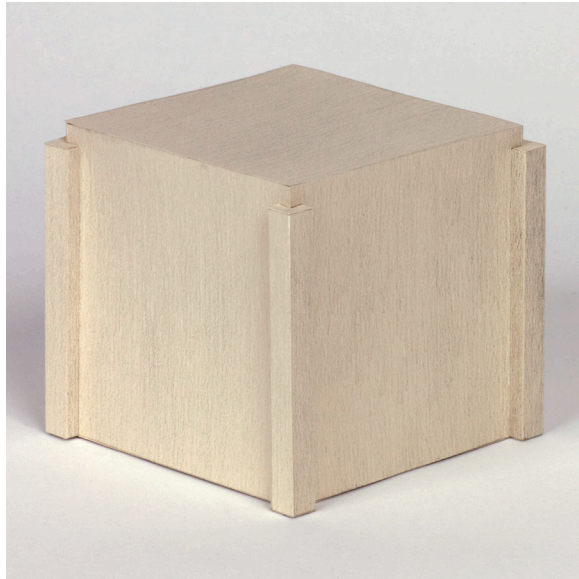
This catalogue provides calculations for the carbon footprints of 20 contemporary artworks. Each carbon footprint is the quantity of carbon dioxide emissions (CO_2), in tons, released into the atmosphere through the production of one of these artworks. The Carbon Copies are small-scale reproductions of the artworks, reconceived as cubes. They are sized according to the cubic volume of CO_2 released by the original works at a scale of 1:5,000,000. The price of each Carbon Copy is the exact dollar amount required to negate the carbon footprint of the original—through the purchase of certified carbon offsets.* The proceeds from the sale of each Carbon Copy will be converted into carbon offsets, and the carbon footprint of the original artwork erased.

*Carbon offsets fund projects that actively remove CO_2 from the air (for example, carbon capture and storage), or curb its release (renewable energy). One certified carbon offset reduces one ton of CO_2 from the earth's atmosphere at a cost of 10 USD.

MARINA ABRAMOVIĆ, *The Artist is Present*,
2010, CARBON COPY

Marina Abramović sits beneath the light of eight 1200 watt studio lamps for the duration of *The Artist is Present* at the Museum of Modern Art. Over the course of the 736 hour, 30 minute performance, the electricity consumed by the lamps accounts for the release of 4.16 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 41.60 USD / -4.16 tons CO₂



MATTHEW BARNEY, *Drawing Restraint 9*,
2005, CARBON COPY

Matthew Barney casts 25 tons of molten petroleum jelly on camera for *Drawing Restraint 9*. The distillation and processing of petroleum products from crude oil make considerable energy demands. Fugitive emissions at petroleum refineries also contribute to the carbon footprint of these products. The manufacture of the petroleum jelly used in *Drawing Restraint 9* releases 44 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 440.00 USD / -44 tons CO₂



VANESSA BEECROFT, *VB 64*, 2009,
CARBON COPY

Vanessa Beecroft's collaborator Kanye West flies to New York from Paris Fashion Week for three hours to produce the video for *VB 64* at Deitch Gallery, Long Island City. The flight, by private jet, releases 22.16 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 221.60 USD / -22.16 tons CO₂



CAI GUO-QIANG, *Project to Extend the Great Wall of China by 10,000 Meters*, 1993,
CARBON COPY

Cai Guo-Qiang ignites a 600 kilogram line of gunpowder to create *Project to Extend the Great Wall of China by 10,000 Meters*. The combustion directly releases 0.29 tons CO₂.

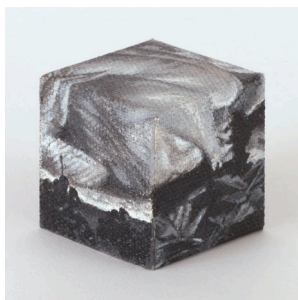
Offset price: 2.90 USD / -0.29 tons CO₂



JOHN CURRIN, *Thanksgiving*, 2003, CARBON
COPY

For *Thanksgiving*, John Currin purchases a twenty-five pound turkey to paint from life. An industrial farm requires the use of thirteen units of fossil fuel for every unit of turkey produced. The energy expenditure to raise Currin's turkey releases 0.46 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 4.60 USD / -0.46 tons CO₂



OLAFUR ELIASSON, *The Weather Project*,
2003, CARBON COPY

Olafur Eliasson installs 240 yellow sodium lamps to create an artificial sun for *The Weather Project*. Over the course of *The Weather Project's* five-month-long exhibition at Tate Modern, the energy required to power this 18,000 watt lightbank results in the release of 15.3 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 153.00 USD / -15.3 tons CO₂



ANDREAS GURSKY, *Bahrain I*, 2005,
CARBON COPY

To create *Bahrain I*, Andreas Gursky charters a helicopter to photograph the Formula 1 racetrack in Bahrain from the air. The jet fuel required for the two-hour flight releases 0.48 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 4.80 USD / -0.48 tons CO₂



DAMIEN HIRST, *For the Love of God*, 2007,
CARBON COPY

Damien Hirst encrusts a platinum skull in 1,106.18 carats of diamond to create *For the Love of God*. The diesel fuel used by a mine to excavate the diamonds releases 17.6 tons CO₂.

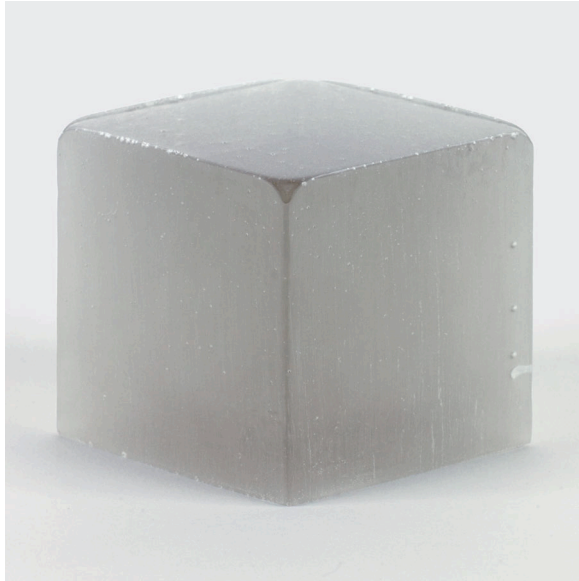
Offset price: 176.00 USD / -17.6 tons CO₂



RONI HORN, *Pink Tons*, 2008, CARBON
COPY

Roni Horn casts 5 tons of solid glass to create *Pink Tons*. Glass production results in CO₂ emissions associated with powering furnaces and compressors, as well as through the oxidation of the carbonate base materials. Producing the glass for *Pink Tons* releases 4.25 tons CO₂.

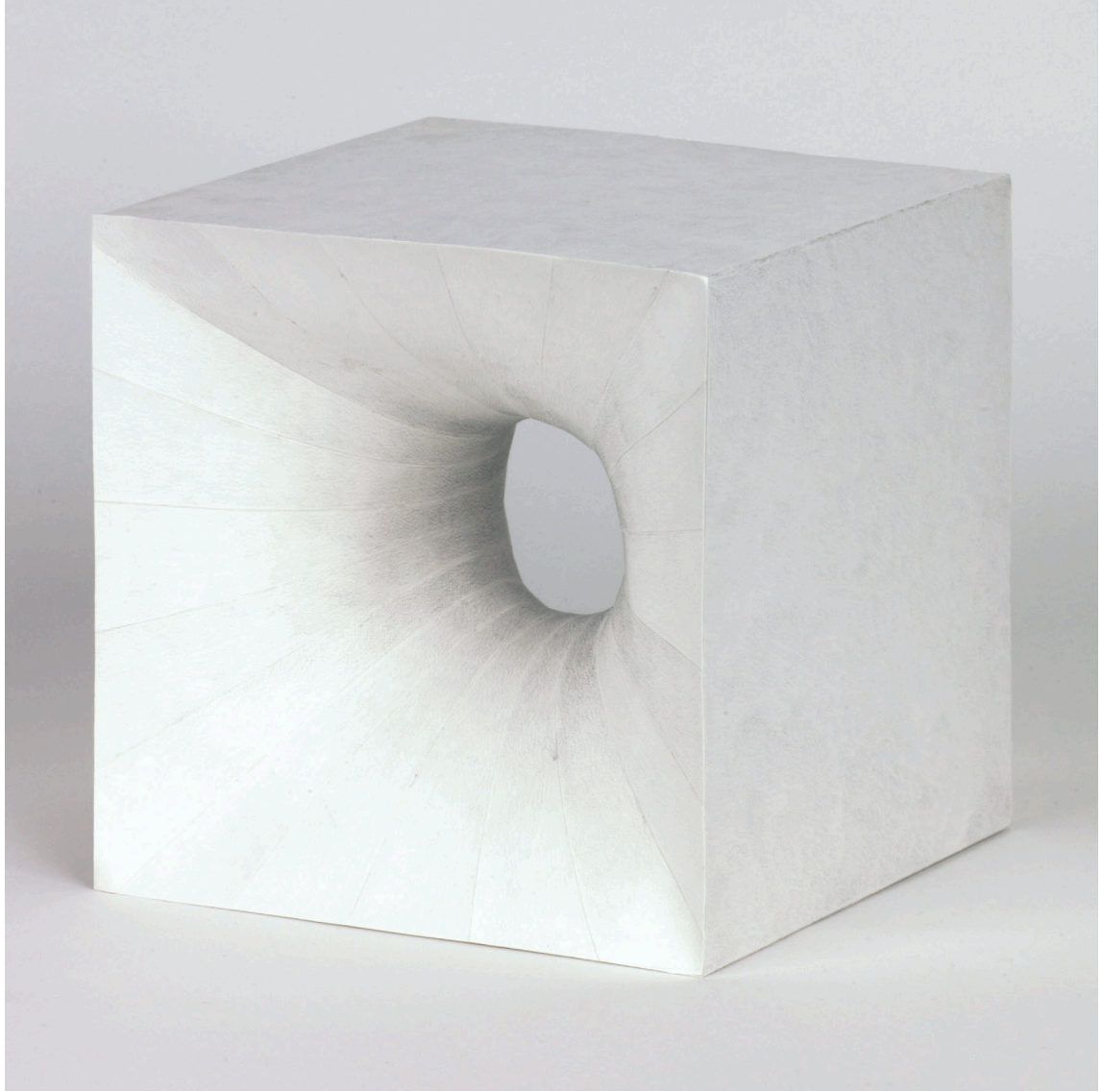
Offset price: 42.50 USD / -4.25 tons CO₂



ANISH KAPOOR, *Taratantara*, 1999,
CARBON COPY

Anish Kapoor suspends 5.5 tons of PVC-coated polyester fabric from a steel scaffold to create *Taratantara*. The chemical synthesis of polyester from petroleum feedstocks requires high temperatures for melting and mixing. Producing the polyester in *Taratantara* releases 48.95 tons CO₂.

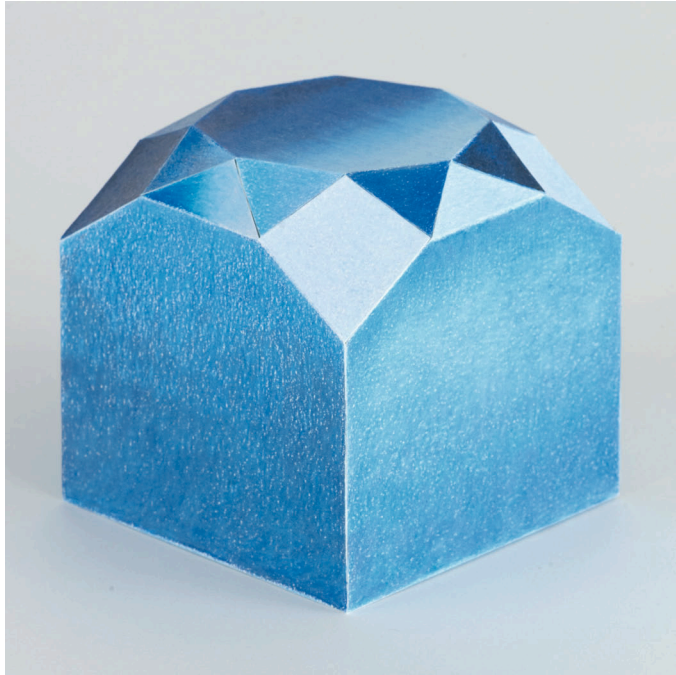
Offset price: 489.50 USD / -48.95 tons CO₂



JEFF KOONS, *Diamond (Blue)*, 2005-06,
CARBON COPY

Jeff Koons assembles *Diamond (Blue)* from 1,152 kilograms of stainless steel. In addition to energy expended in mining and smelting, the manufacture of stainless steel requires that raw materials be melted together for up to twelve hours at extremely high temperatures. The fuel to produce the stainless steel in *Diamond (Blue)* releases 7.64 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 76.40 USD / -7.64 tons CO₂



JULIE MEHRETU, *Mural*, 2009, CARBON
COPY

Julie Mehretu begins work on *Mural* in her Detroit studio. Four assistants join her in Berlin to complete the painting in a larger space, and all return to New York to oversee installation of the work in the lobby of Goldman Sachs. Their cumulative air travel releases 5.04 tons CO₂.

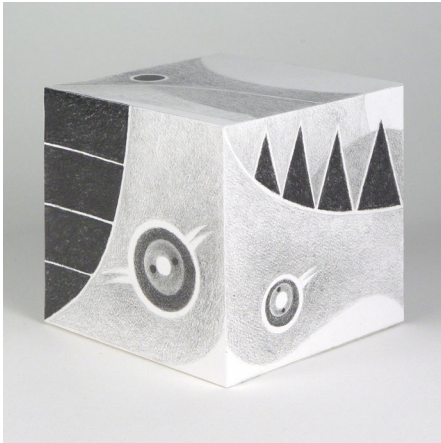
Offset price: 50.40 USD / -5.04 tons CO₂



TAKASHI MURAKAMI, *Chaos*, 1996,
CARBON COPY

Takashi Murakami inflates *Chaos* with 65.5 cubic meters of helium. The extraction of helium, found in small quantities in natural gas reserves, results in the venting of CO₂ from these same reserves. Extracting the helium in *Chaos* releases 2.3 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 23.00 USD / -2.3 tons CO₂



CHRIS OFILI, *Confession (Lady Chancellor)*,
2007, CARBON COPY

Chris Ofili, who has lived and painted in Trinidad since 2005, flies to London to attend his retrospective at Tate Britain in 2010. *Confession (Lady Chancellor)* is included in the show. A single passenger on a roundtrip flight from Trinidad to London accounts for the release of 1.76 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 17.60 USD / -1.76 tons CO₂



ELIZABETH PEYTON, *Tony (Savoy)*, 1999,
CARBON COPY

To create *Tony (Savoy)*, Elizabeth Peyton paints boyfriend Tony Just in bed at the Savoy in London. Fairmont Hotels, which owns and operates the Savoy, calculates their cumulative carbon emissions at 0.055 tons per guest per night. A night at the Savoy for Peyton and Just accounts for the release of 0.11 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 1.10 USD / -0.11 tons CO₂



RICHARD PRINCE, *Untitled*, 2007,
CARBON COPY

To produce *Untitled*, Richard Prince tricks out a 1970 Dodge Challenger exterior shell with a new chassis, steering, suspension, and a 440 horsepower engine. Over the engine's 50,000 mile warranted lifespan, it emits 17.2 tons CO₂.

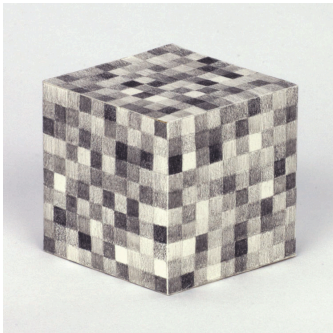
Offset price: 172.00 USD / -17.2 tons CO₂



GERHARD RICHTER, *4900 Colours, Version II*, 2007, CARBON COPY

Gerhard Richter paints *4900 Colours, Version II* on 49 Alu-dibond panels each measuring 97 centimeters square. Smelting alumina with cryolite to form aluminum requires a sustained, high-amperage electrical current. The chemical reaction also releases CO₂ as a byproduct. Producing the 0.3 millimeter aluminum surface of the panels in *4900 Colours, Version II* releases 0.62 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 6.20 USD / -0.62 tons CO₂



RICHARD SERRA, *Torqued Ellipse IV*, 1998,
CARBON COPY

Richard Serra forms 65 tons of Cor-ten steel to create *Torqued Ellipse IV*. Smelting and processing steel result in substantial carbon emissions. Additionally, the carbon removed from the iron base material is burned off as carbon monoxide and CO₂. Producing the steel used in *Torqued Ellipse IV* releases 109.4 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 1,094.00 USD / -109.4 tons CO₂



RUDOLF STINGEL, *Untitled*, 2007,
CARBON COPY

For his mid-career retrospective at the Whitney Museum of American Art, Rudolf Stingel covers the walls and ceiling of a fourth floor gallery with foil-lined insulation board. The maker of the insulation, Celotex, calculates the carbon footprint of this insulation at 8.8 kilograms of CO₂ per square meter of insulation. The production of the insulation for the Whitney piece, *Untitled*, releases 6.16 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 61.60 USD / -6.16 tons CO₂



RACHEL WHITEREAD, *House*, 1993,
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Rachel Whiteread casts 70 tons of concrete to create *House*. Heating, grinding, and transporting cement for concrete require significant energy expenditures. In addition, the calcination of limestone necessary to produce cement directly releases CO₂. Producing the concrete for *House* releases 10.5 tons CO₂.

Offset price: 105.00 USD / -10.5 tons CO₂



\mathcal{N}_2 _____

